

19 January 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence  
FROM : Chief, History Staff  
SUBJECT : Department of Army's request for CIA documents with information about Communist germ warfare propaganda during the Korean War, 1951-1953.

1. In the attached letter of 7 January 1982 Dr. Albert Cowdrey of the Department of the Army's Center of Military History requests access to those CIA Secret Weekly Intelligence Summaries for 1951-1953 that might contain information about Communist propaganda charges that United Nations forces were using germ warfare in Korea.

2. In response to Dr. Cowdrey's request, I would like to have an Aegis System run on this subject. I would be grateful if you would then arrange to have those publications with relevant information sent directly to me at 316 Ames Building, where Dr. Cowdrey will carry out this research.

3. I shall see that any reports you find for us are reviewed for access or denial before passing them on to Dr. Cowdrey, who is writing the official medical history volume in the United States Army's Korean War series.

4. I shall attach a copy of Dr. Cowdrey's Secret clearance, and we are informing him of the caveats in CIA's Access Policy, especially with respect to CIA review before the declassification, downgrading, or publication of any material.



J. Kenneth McDonald

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
THE CHIEF OF MILITARY HISTORY AND THE CENTER OF  
MILITARY HISTORY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314

DAMH-HDM

Dr. J. Kenneth McDonald  
Chief, Historical Staff  
316 Ames Building  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505

7 January 1982

Dear Dr. McDonald:

As you may remember from my last request for information, I am currently working on a medical history of the Korean War. This volume is to form part of the U.S. ARMY IN THE KOREAN WAR series, published by the Center of Military History.

One of the important medical stories of the war was the propaganda campaign dating from the spring of 1951 onward, in which the Communist powers accused the United Nations forces of using germ warfare in Korea. To the best of my knowledge, the provenance, purpose and effects of this campaign have never been fully unraveled.

In hopes of clarifying the sequence of events, I would like to examine the periodic intelligence summaries prepared by the National Foreign Assessment Center or the Director for Intelligence Research and Analysis for 1951 - 53. If possible, I would like to visit your office and perform the research myself.

I have a SECRET clearance, a copy of which is attached for your convenience. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

ALBERT E. COWDREY  
Chief, Medical History Branch

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